

# E-NEWS

COMMERCIAL & PUBLIC BUILDINGS ELECTRIC & GAS UTILITIES GREENING GOVERNMENT RENEWABLE ENERGY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS ENERGY POLICY & LEGISLATION

December 2007



OUR MISSION

Leading Colorado to a New Energy Economy

through energy efficiency, renewable and clean

energy resources.

### Greetings!

Welcome to this month's edition of The Governor's Energy Office Enewsletter. If you haven't seen our new website, be sure to check it out by using the links in this email. Enjoy!

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# **Happy Green Holidays**

Are you searching for the perfect gift for someone that "has it all?" Or looking for a gift that promotes energy efficiency or renewable energy? Have no fear - The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) is here. We've put together a list of energy conscious gifts, and some tips to keep your holiday season energy smart. Whether you are giving to a loved one or treating yourself, we hope these gifts will warm the heart - or at least make your home more comfortable. Check out GEO's Green Gift Guide at www.colorado.gov/energy

Happy Holidays!







### **Governor's Excellence in Renewable Energy Awards**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the nomination process for the first annual Governor's Excellence in Renewable Energy Awards.

We are pleased to share that the winners of the awards will be announced by Governor Ritter at the State of the State address on January 10, 2008. Award recipients will be notified by GEO no later than January 3, 2008.

### **Greening Government Coordinates Green Seal Training**

On November 30, 2007, Green Seal, a non-profit dedicated to the promotion of environmentally responsible products and services, provided Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) training to state purchasing agents. Speakers Arthur Weissman, Mark Rentschler, and Mark Petruzzi personified Green Seal's slogan, "The Mark of Environmental Responsibility," generated a lot of interest as they presented information and guidelines that will support EPP program objectives. Greening Government's goal is to implement EPP policy no later than June 2008.

The EPP program will allow purchasing agents to give preference to products that minimize environmental impacts over the lifetime of the product and will give them the flexibility and tools to look at products for quality and performance and environmental impact. The tools discussed in the training include those that provide clarity and predictability for bidders, and allow purchasing agents to emphasize that environmental attributes are a high priority, dramatically simplifying compliance with House Bill 1220. Following the training and implementation of the program, each EPP agent will have a chance to improve quality of life in Colorado in the areas of resource conservation, energy efficiency, waste management, recycling and air and water quality.

To learn more about Green Seal and their environmental mission, log on to:

www.greenseal.org/.

### **Woody Biomass Training Course Announced**

The U.S. Forest Service, as part of its "Wood-to-Energy Jump-Start Program", along with the Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University, and GEO announce the 2nd Annual Woody Biomass Utilization short course taking place January 7-18 on the Campus of Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The course is structured in (2) one-week long sessions. The initial session explores the impact of forest management priorities on biomass to energy applications including biomass supply, harvesting, processing, and transportation costs. The second week presents technical and financial aspects of wood and non-wood biomass energy applications and conversion technologies. Participants may register for either week or receive a discount by registering for the full two weeks. Space is limited.

To receive additional information or to register contact Tim Reader with

the Colorado State Forest Service at (970)247-5250 or via email at treader@lamar.colostate.edu.

### **Governor's Biofuels Coalition Update**

The GBC would like to thank all who planned and participated in November's GM Fuels for Thought Tour. The event was held on the campus of the University of Colorado and brought together numerous experts to educate the public about biofuels. GM also held special buy down events at four GBC sponsored retail biofuels stations. Thousands of gallons of E85 were sold at .85 cent/gallon! Thank you to GM and all of those involved to promote biofuels in Colorado.

If you are interested in learning more about the GBC, biofuels, or funding for station retrofitting, please visit the GBC section of GEO's website.

# Clean Energy Fund Gala: Save the Date

Mark your calendar for the First Annual Clean Energy Fund Gala to be held on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at The Colorado Convention Center. You don't want to miss this event. There will be a silent and live auction with amazing items, including an array of items devoted to energy efficiency and green living, an even more amazing professional auctioneer, great food and lots of fun.

Funds raised by The Clean Energy Fund Gala will directly benefit low-income communities such as human service organizations, shelters, and affordable housing. The event will also benefit Colorado's K-12 public schools and each project supported by the event will include an education and outreach component. Funds will be leveraged by the creation of additional partnerships and will be used to implement energy efficiency measures and renewable energy technologies to reduce overall energy costs, consumption and provide better structures for living, learning, and working.

Stay tuned for more details in the next issue of GEO's Enewsletter.

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